

STANDISH-with-LANGTREE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

# MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1904.

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STANDISH,

*February, 1905.*

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Tenth Annual Report.

Whilst the statistics are not quite so favourable as in the previous year you will see by comparison that they are not altogether unfavourable.

I must again acknowledge your kind and ready assistance in any matter which I have deemed it my duty to bring before you.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. WILSON, M.D.,

*Fellow Royal Institute of Public Health.*



# STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1904.

Population 1891 Census	...	...	...	5416
,, 1901 ,,				6303
				—
		Increase in 10 years	...	887
				—
Acreage of Township	...	...	...	3264 acres.
Estimated Population July 1st, 1904	...	...	...	6546
				Showing density of population 2·00 per acre.
Births—Males	...		111	
,, Females	...	...	112	
				—
			223	—
Deaths—Males	...	...	79	
,, Females	...	...	52	
				—
			131	—
Annual Birth Rate per 1000 population	...	...	34·06	
Annual Death Rate per 1000 population	...	...	20·00	
Natural increase of population by excess of births over deaths	...	...		92
Total deaths from Zymotic diseases	...	...	...	13
Annual rate of mortality from Zymotic diseases...	...	...	...	1·98
Total deaths from Zymotic Enteritis	...	...	...	4
Annual rate of mortality from Zymotic Enteritis	...	...	...	0·61
Total deaths in infants under 1 year	...	...	...	39
Infantile death rate per 1000 births	...	...	...	174·08
Number of illegitimate births registered	...	...	...	11
Number of deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year of age...	...	...		2

TABLE I.

Year	<i>Estimated Population, July 1st, 1904.</i>				
	1895	1896	1897	1898	
1895	...	...	...	...	5850
1896	...	...	...	...	5900
1897	...	...	...	...	5950
1898	...	...	...	...	6000
1899	...	...	...	...	6138
1900	...	...	...	...	6245
1901	...	...	...	...	6325
1902	...	...	...	...	6413
1903	...	...	...	...	6502
1904	...	...	...	...	6546

TABLE II.

## BIRTH RATE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

Year	No. of Births.						Rate per 1000 of Population.
	...	...	...	258	...	...	
1895	...	...	...	258	...	...	44·4
1896	...	...	...	209	...	...	35·4
1897	...	...	...	215	...	...	37·3
1898	...	...	...	227	...	...	37·83
1899	...	...	...	215	...	...	35·04
1900	...	...	...	208	...	...	33·3
1901	...	...	...	214	...	...	33·67
1902	...	...	...	264	...	...	41·16
1903	...	...	...	222	...	...	34·14
1904	...	...	...	223	...	...	34·06

TABLE III.

## ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

Year	Death Rate per 1000 Population		
	...	...	...
1895	...	...	2·05
1896	...	...	1·01
1897	...	...	2·05
1898	...	...	1·3
1899	...	...	3·58
1900	...	...	3·20
1901	...	...	3·16
1902	...	...	2·02
1903	...	...	1·99
1904	...	...	1·98

TABLE IV.

Year	Death Rate under 1 year		Death Rate under 5 years		Death Rate over 65 years	
	per 1000 births	...	per 1000 population	...	per 1000 population	...
1895	...	155·1	...	10·42	...	8·88
1896	...	172·24	...	8·47	...	8·64
1897	...	220·7	...	12·94	...	4·20
1898	...	149·7	...	7·66	...	2·16
1899	...	218·6	...	12·23	...	3·09
1900	...	182·7	...	8·97	...	2·72
1901	...	196·02	...	8·06	...	2·37
1902	...	136·74	...	9·82	...	1·55
1903	...	144·14	...	7·38	...	2·76
1904	...	174·08	...	8·40	...	2·74

TABLE V.

DEATH RATE FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

Year	Number of Deaths.						Death Rate per 1000 Population
	120	103	144	92	142	121	
1895	...	...	...	...	...	...	20·6
1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	17·11
1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	24·20
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	15·3
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	23·13
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	19·36
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	17·07
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	17·46
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	13·99
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	20·00

TABLE VI.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING YEAR, 1904.

	At all Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 65 years	Over 65 years
Measles .....	4	...	—	4	...	—	...
Enteric Fever.....	5	...	—	...	2	...	3
Enteritis .....	4	...	4	...	—	...	—
Phthisis .....	9	...	1	...	—	2	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	...	2	...	1	...	2
Bronchitis .....	5	...	—	—	1	...	2
Pneumonia .....	19	..	5	...	4	...	7
Pleurisy .....	2	..	—	—	—	—	2
Cirrhosis of Liver ..	1	...	—	—	—	—	1
Premature Birth ..	4	...	4	...	—	—	—
Heart Diseases .....	3	...	—	—	—	—	2
Accidents .....	5	...	—	1	1	...	2
Suicides .....	1	...	—	—	—	—	1
All other causes.....	63	...	23	...	5	...	12
Total .....	131	...	39	...	16	...	18

TABLE VII.

THE ZYMIC RATE OF 1·98 IS MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:--

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 of Population.
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—
Measles .....	4	...
Whooping Cough .....	—	—
Typhus .....	—	—
Enteric Fever.....	5	...
Diphtheria and Croup .....	—	—
Zymotic Enteritis .....	4	...
	13	1·98

TABLE VIII.

## NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	<i>Enteric</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Croup</i>	<i>Erysipelas</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Continued Fever</i>	<i>Puerperal Fever</i>	<i>Measles</i>	Total Cases Notified
January.....	1								1
February ...	2			4	2				8
March .....	5	1		3	1				17
April .....	1			2	1			39	43
May .....		1	1	2				14	18
June .. ....	1			1				2	3
July .. ....				1				6	7
August .....	1			2				12	15
September	2	1						15	18
October.....	1				2			24	27
November...	1		1	1	2			11	16
December ...				3	12			1	16
Total .....	14	3	2	19	20	—	—	131	189

*Estimated Population.*—This shows an increase of 92 over the previous year.

*Registered Births.*—These were one more than for last year.

*Registered Deaths.*—The deaths registered numbered 131, being an increase of 40 on the year. The death-rate is 20.00, being an increase of 6.01 per 1000, and is the highest death-rate for the past 5 years.

*Zymotic Rate.*—The number of deaths from Zymotic diseases is the same as last year, which is equal to a death-rate of 1.98.

*Phthisis.*—This affection caused 9 deaths.

*Other Tubercular Affections* contributed 6 deaths.

*Infantile Death-rate.*—39 infants under 1 year of age, died during the year, being an increase of 7 on the previous year, and the rate 174.08 per 1000 births, shows a considerable increase in consequence.

*Deaths over 65 years.*—These were 18 in number, which is same as the preceding year, and is equal to a rate of 2.74, as compared with a rate of 2.76 for 1903.

*Notifications of Infectious Diseases.*—These show a considerable increase, being 189 cases notified, as compared with 128 in 1903. The large number of cases under this heading is due to the inclusion in this district of Measles as a notifiable disease (there being no less than 131 cases of this affection alone), together with retention of Erysipelas as a scheduled disease, and which contributed 19 cases. Thus, we have left only 39 cases of the other infectious diseases, which I consider a favourable circumstance. Scarlet fever, which has generally contributed a considerable num-

ber of cases under this heading, was only responsible for 20 cases for the year under review. The majority of the cases (12) were notified during the month of December, the remaining cases being notified in February (2), March, and April (1 each), October, and November (2 each).

*Enteric Fever.*—14 cases of this disease were notified. This disease has shown a steady decrease during the last decade; for instance, in 1895 22 cases were notified, in 1896 there were 22 cases, in 1897 25 cases, in 1898 23 cases, and so on.

Certain precautions and regulations have been promulgated during the past year for the prevention of Ankylostomiasis, and it is my firm conviction that if these regulations are strictly carried out, they will have a very beneficial effect on the number of cases of Enteric fever among the young males employed underground in mining districts.

There were fewer cases than usual of Zymotic Enteritis, only 4 deaths being ascribed to this cause.

*Diphtheria.*—3 cases of this affection were notified, but under the improved methods of treatment by anti-diphtheric serum, none of the cases ended fatally. 2 cases of Croup were reported, but these likewise recovered.

*Erysipelas.*—The number of cases which contribute to this heading is always considerable, and is due to the number of injuries in the coal mines in which dirt is the contributing factor. Whilst the number of cases is large, they happily all recovered.

*Continued Fever.*—No cases of this affection were notified.

*Small-pox.*—No cases in our Township.

*Puerperal Fever.*—No cases occurred during the year.

*Housing of the Working Classes Act.*—We have not found it necessary to exercise our power of closure under this Act.

*Drains, Sewers, and Sewage Disposal.*—The sewer in the neighbourhood of James Spuare has been relaid, and will effect a considerable improvement in this district of the township, which has been difficult to drain efficiently. Sewage has been effectively dealt with on the Council's Sewage farm.

*Cleansing and Scavenging.*—This is carried out partly by contract and partly by the Council, and in both cases is carried out efficiently.

*Common Lodging Houses.*—These are registered and inspected, and on account of the slackness in the coal trade, the majority of houses have less occupants than their registered number.

*Slaughter-houses.*—These are registered and inspected, and are clean and well-kept.

*Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.*—The regulations of the Local Government Board have been conformed to.

*Water Supply.*—This is constant, and of excellent quality.

*Factory and Workshops Act, 1901.*—The places which under this Act come under the inspection of the Sanitary Authority comprise one factory, two bake-houses (both above ground), four dressmakers' premises, 2 joiners' and sawyers' shops, four cloggers' shops, one bonework, 2 wheelwrights' shops, 2 blacksmiths' shops, and one brewery. They were all inspected, and one case of insanitary closets was found, which was remedied on owner's attention being called to the matter.

The register has been kept as required by the Act, and on inspection the points on which observations were taken dealt with the cleanliness of the premises, the air space per person employed, the ventilation of the premises, the drainage of wet floors, and the proper ratio of closet accommodation, with separate accommodation for both sexes. In the case of the bake-houses, in addition to the foregoing points, the limewashing and cleansing was found satisfactory.

*Bake-houses.*—All are above ground, clean, and well kept.

*Inquests.*—6 inquests were held during the year. 1 death was due to accidental burning, 4 due to accidents in coal mines, and 1 due to suicide.

#### REPORT OF NUISANCE INSPECTOR.

February 18th, 1905.

To Dr. Wilson, Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I beg to lay before you my report for the year 1904.

20 cases of Scarlet Fever, 14 of Enteric, 131 of Measles, and 3 of Diphtheria were reported to me. All these received the attention required by you in your instructions, and were fumigated according to your orders.

49 Nuisances have been reported and abated and 3 are in course of abatement.

*Factories and Workshops* have been inspected with satisfactory results.

*Dairies and Cowsheds* in the district have been visited, and, with the exception of three reported as insanitary, are in a satisfactory state. The Standish Estate continues to make improvements in the building of cowsheds which will no doubt tend to improve the milk supply of the district.

*Bake Houses and Slaughter Houses* have been visited and are kept in a clean state.

*Lodging Houses* have been visited and these are kept clean. There is no overcrowding.

*The Sewage* is treated as usual on the farm. One of the filters has been enlarged and it works satisfactorily. Effluents taken by the County Council Inspector have been reported as very good.

It has not been necessary to appeal to the Magistrates for an Order to abate any nuisance—most of the requirements of the Sanitary Authority have been carried out by the responsible persons. During the year one seizure was made of meat unfit for human food. The case was taken before the Magistrates but unfortunately the defendant did not appear to answer the charge. The Magistrates issued a warrant for his arrest but the police have not as yet been able to put it into effect.

I am, Sir,

Yours obediently,

E. SHEPHARD.